

520.34692V16

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): SORAOKA et al

Serial No.:

Filed: October 21, 2003

For: Vacuum Processing Apparatus And
Semiconductor Manufacturing Line Using
The Same

REAFFIRMATION OF CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Mail Stop: Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

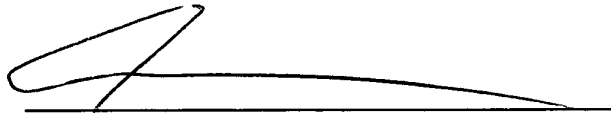
October 21, 2003

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 7-182921, filed in Japan on July 19, 1995.

The certified copy of the above-referred to Japanese Patent Application was filed on October 10, 1996 in prior application Serial No. 08/677,682, filed July 8, 1996.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan E. Schiavelli
Registration No. 32,087
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

AES/jla
(703) 312-6600